



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney

Eastern District of Pennsylvania

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 8, 2008

PRESS RELEASE

PHILADELPHIA – United States Attorney Patrick L. Meehan today announced the indictment¹ of DONALD JONES, JACOB MITCHELL, and ERNEST BEASLEY who are charged in a six-count indictment with conspiracy to distribute and possess with intent to distribute five or more grams of cocaine base (“crack”) (crack cocaine), distribution of crack cocaine, possession with intent to distribute five or more grams of crack cocaine, and aiding and abetting. The indictment alleges that on April 9, 2007, in Philadelphia, JONES, MITCHELL, and BEASLEY sold crack cocaine to four persons, had additional crack cocaine for sale, and had approximately more than 30 grams of crack cocaine in JONES’ residence with the intent to distribute it.

This indictment is part of Project Safe Neighborhoods, an initiative by the United States Attorney’s Office, all District Attorney’s Offices in the Eastern District of Pennsylvania, the Philadelphia Police Department and other Police Departments, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms, to identify and prosecute firearms offenders in federal court, where the defendants are likely to receive a substantial sentence upon conviction.

INFORMATION REGARDING THE DEFENDANT

NAME	ADDRESS	AGE
DONALD JONES	PHILADELPHIA, PA.	47 years old
JACOB MITCHELL	PHILADELPHIA, PA.	31 years old
ERNEST BEASLEY	PHILADELPHIA, PA.	27 years old

If convicted the defendants each face a a mandatory minimum sentence of no less than 5 years to a maximum possible sentence of 160 years imprisonment, at least 4 years to lifetime supervised release, a fine of \$8,000,000, and a \$600 special assessment.

The case was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives and the Philadelphia Police Department, and will be prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Eric B. Henson.

¹ An indictment or information is an accusation. A defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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